

horn-hand, where each man has only to produce one sound, its note is purer and better than the artificially produced notes of any pan-phonic instrument which has ever been brought into use.

And even should any of our scientific officers be ignorant of all other things besides his particular art, to us as a collegiate architectural body it would matter little, provided he give us the fruit of the particular gift or talent for which we have elected him for our officer.

If it be asked why, when there were already so many societies in existence devoted to architecture, the foundation of the College of the *Architects of the Church* was undertaken? Let me answer to such as may not be intimately acquainted with the state of architecture in England, its tone—the bearing and frame of architectural society,—that had those institutions promoted to the proper and legitimate purpose the objects of their foundation, this association would never have been framed. Allow me, *Architima*, to say, that those who have promoted the formation of this institution, both mentally and ennobled in their imagination this society long before the existence of the existing architectural societies were often thought of: those who have framed this institution, and have secured it into providing growth which will doubtless flourish, have broader original ideas of greater compass than those which have led to the formation of any of the existing and defunct societies. I have the benefit of the experience of their languishment, decay, and failure. We have, therefore, the advantage of original conception purified by such experience; we are ennobled with our freemasonic body the result of bygone experience; we have had the advantage of such advice; I may say that we have succeeded in uniting in one body a larger and more intelligent and respectable body of scientific persons than ever before were linked in one association of the same nature.

We have our other advantage:—for many years past not only have professional persons banded and even loudly contended that some great cause exists requiring the formation of such an association, but they and the whole public have agreed that architecture has been in a fallen state, and requires regeneration; and all in concert have complained that such societies as have been founded have failed of their objects: hence we have not only apology for this foundation, but we have been positively called into existence by the circumstances of the times, by the community of mind operating to that end, and fortuitously drawn out, and as it were crystallized together; and may such crystallization be shining, and reflect purely and in native brilliancy all the beauty of the design, and of the talent and ability and mental illumination with which, *Architima*, I know you as a body and as scientific individuals to be gifted. It would be invidious in me on the present occasion to attempt particularizing the cases in which other societies and institutions have failed; but, *Architima*, I shall deem it to be my duty and to mine I should be seconded by friends so sterling in their resolve, to unto the end officers which have been performed by others towards our noble art of architecture: where science has been trampled upon, we shall wear the plait, and make it spring up many-fold; where poison has been disseminated, we shall confound it within the moderate bounds of medicinal utility; where idle ecstasies have been undertaken, we shall exercise such nurturing and such gentle pruning as may tend to wholesome fruitage, and not destroy.

In a word, the office of the *Architects of the Church* will ever be to admire and endeavour to imitate, at humble distance, the example of the *Architect of the Universe*, who while planning the totality of the heavens' starry frame, has not forgotten the articulation of the limbs of the microscopic insect, our has thrown away one particle of creation's mass.

By the initiation of the class of *Architectural Associates*, we hope the greatest results.

We do not propose to devote to the teaching of old practitioners (though none of us profess to be too old to learn; on the contrary, all confessing ourselves to be mere pupils), but to imbue the rising members of the profession with principles which shall stand the test of time, that sturdiest of philosophers, and to provide for such adolescent architects, reasons by which the powers of their mind directed aright and assisted orthodoxly, they may, by a moderate age, acquire all the learning which the experienced architectural practitioner has to impart.

*Architima*, we cannot pretend to provide for the mass, but we assure that we are ever ready to do so: to PROPEL BY THE CANONS OF ARCHITECTURAL TRUTH, WITH WHICH OUR BROTHERS HAVE NEW MINDS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE MANY; and when we look at the countless works of antiquity, and find so many thousands of them representing the perfection of their genera, *Architima*, we are ever ready to do so.

have been more common (which is a thing we deny) or that through community of imparting knowledge, persons of inferior ability were able to profit, and were accorded *the rules which govern the impart and order in the practice, which is not so* HERMINY SCIENTIFIC, LIKE THOSE OF THE LEADING COMET, ARE IN LIKE MANNER NATURAL AND ORDINARY.

We have laid down methods for nomenclature in architecture,—for the distinguishing of colours in canvas, drawing, and engravings, by which draughts of coloured glass and mosaics can be printed in the cheapest possible manner, and be circulated among even workmen of means the most contracted, and thus found again good taste with the multitude who must ever, like the beehive of the fields, form the chief covering of the globe. We have begun the completion of the nomenclature of architecture, rendered necessary by the fact of there not being previously a distinct name for one thing in twenty in Gothic architecture,—a whole line of words being often necessary to distinguish some small article.

We have undertaken the subdivision and classification of architecture, into *the science of the Pointed Architecture*, so as to improve and facilitate the means of its knowledge and practice. Much of this is already done, and much more have we in hand; and if any of greater importance than industry, knowing not how slowly have the grand improvements in art and science taken place, should grow weary under any assumed undue delay in our open appearance, my short answer is—I know we have already ventured further, and have done more towards *regenerating, and ordering, and bounding Architecture under scientific limits*, than any other art has ever achieved, and we are now in the brilliant and total behest of the *Architects of the olden time*, whose name is so great, but whose works, living in every vault, and pinnacle, and buttress, and tower, and spire, in all Christian lands, is so much greater still.

And here I might be asked by some who know not the true significance of the term *Architects*, what answer we have assumed to such a title, and the answer is, we have a right so to do; as architectural constructors in durable stone fabric, masonry, brick, and not men of *loft and plaster*; (free, I trust we shall be, to leap over by scientific impetus the old prejudices of unarchitectural ignorance, which has impeded the art, and thus the freedom of scientific and architectural action; and if we must be emulated, let us know no pale but that of science—let us fear no straying but that of the over-leaping of the walls of integrity, sterling purpose, and scientific impulses.

We do not desire to destroy existing architectural institutions, but when they are purged and purified, and that feeling, to unite with us, and bind up one powerful weapon against future corruption and subversion.

Some might ask, why have we adjointed to the architectural department those of clerical and lay fellows? My answer is, the day being past when extraneous lay interference in architecture can be prevented; we, therefore, finding that position, the time has occurred with the profession of architecture that it cannot be removed or prevented, are obliged for patronage and for power so to continue it, endeavouring to educate the public to good taste and deferential reliance upon our masculine abilities: although the *Grecian temple* and the *Gothic cathedral* were alike the result of high professional talent and taste, which no public had ever any hand, and we could easily prove that from the hour where public interference with the management and details of architecture first began, then commenced the contempt of that public for the very works of that architecture, which it had so long held in hand; this very contempt and contempt of the HADNEY, SCIBLING, BABBLERS OF THE DAY, WHO FOLLOWS SUCH LAY INTERFERENCE IN ARCHITECTURE, GENERALLY CONFINING THEIR ADMIRATION TO ANCIENT BUILDINGS SOLELY ALONE BY SCIENTIFIC REASON, IN THE VERY ART OF CONSTRUCTION, AND IN THE VERY ART OF CONSTRUCTION, (WHICH COMPARISONS ARE UNDESIRABLE IN ANY EXAMPLE OF GENUINE ARCHITECTURE).

Why have we blended the clergy with us I think can need no questioning. While the clergy must have so much to do with church architecture, their exclusion would be vain; therefore it must be for the benefit of all, that those who are so good in hand with each other, and so probing mutually, and partaking of the same imbuing of taste and science, the fabrication of sound edicts may rightly progress.

Some may think we have asserted some state, and may refuse to believe the ridicule of mankind thereby; but I think no state greater than the importance of the occasion requires has been assumed. Some may think there is the ridiculous in setting up to reform that which many attempting have failed of doing. But if such feelings and motives, or rather such paralytic, were to prevail, and to prevent the free

any thing which has fallen into a state of irregularity, then would little be due to regenerate things so fallen.

I can, and I trust my friends here assembled, bear to stoop to conquer,—can bear to undergo that necessary preliminary to becoming which has in undertaking something, the engaging in which borders, in the minds of quiet, ordinary people, upon the ridiculous.

We have drawn together the *elite* of architectural science, having around us, perhaps the best in each department; we have become fringed in and bolstered by a firm *esprit de corps*, for the want of which other architectural societies have failed, for they indeed have never been nurtured as brotherhoods.

We have been by fortuitous circumstances placed in a situation for the diffusion of our labours, opinions, and knowledge, to all branches of the building community: we have the means of heralding into all countries the fruits of our science, research, and perseverance.

It is matter of proud feeling and high congratulation to us, that while not asking for membership with strangers so long as we have been engaged as lawgivers, our numbers have increased, and considerable revenue has been secured, while if so much as one original member has left us, it would be impossible to find a second who has not.

It will be in our hands to matter of some gratification to me that our friends have built up and settled the College under this roof. I have firm confidence that, as it is growing strong on the wing, it will ere long take bolder flight and build its own nest. Till then I shall be proud of its still finding here an abiding place.

But I am warned by the lateness of the hour to desist from following a theme in which, were it possible that I could be eloquent, the subject of my present address would surely here power to make me so, for the time would fall in the endroasts to speak adequately of our beloved art.

I must, therefore, conclude, thanking you for the patent hearing with which you have honoured me; and trusting that as the time has arrived when, fully formed, the College will commence open operations, that something worthier, contributed by our scientific members, will, on the next occasion, arrest your attention—whether it be graphic or whether it be literary.

The next meeting will be that of the 17th, or Saint Mark's Chapter, on Tuesday evening, the 16th instant.

#### CHURCH-BUILDING INTELLIGENCE, &c.

*Restoration of St. Olave's Church.*—The restoration of St. Olave's Church, which was so severely injured by the destructive fire at Topping's wharf, in the autumn of last year, is rapidly advancing. The slating of the new roof was completed on Saturday week, and the reparation of the tower is progressing briskly. The fitting of the interior are also in a forward state. The Ionic columns, a considerable portion of the aisle piers, and the entire of the communion, including the statues of Moses and Aaron, and the tables of the decalogue, are in tolerable preservation. (Whether the bells will be recast or not is at present undecided. It is stated that Mr. Allen, the architect, intends so far to complete the building as to have the sacred pile ready for public service by the ensuing Midsummer, if not at an earlier period. We have in hand some interesting illustrations of this beautiful work of Filarete, who for many years assisted Sir Christopher Wren.

The site for a new church to be erected in Belton-street, Long-Acre, has been marked out, the tower of which will be built upon the exact area where stood the public-house the Guy, Earl of Warwick, which existed about one hundred years. The sacred edifice, which will be called "Christ Church, St. Giles-in-the-Fields," will be constructed with Cress stone and Kentish rag, and will be made capable of containing about 1,000 persons, all the sittings being free. There will be galleries; and the interior of the edifice will be 50 feet wide by 70 feet long. The cost of it will be under more than 4,000*l.*, a portion of which is provided from the Metropolitan Churches Fund, but the greater part has been raised by voluntary contributions from the principal inhabitants. A sum will also be subscribed for the endowment of the church. Adjoining this building will be some spacious houses, erected according to the plans of the Commissioners of the Woods and Forests, which, when completed, will make a very great improvement in the neighbourhood.